

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 NEA-09 ISO-00 VO-03 SCA-01 SCS-03 EB-07

COME-00 L-02 H-02 PPT-01 SS-15 SP-02 NSC-05 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 FAA-00

DOTE-00 /084 W

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R 131030Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1341

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMCONSUL MONTREAL

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 0991

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PBOR ETRN CGEN CASC CPAS CY TU

SUBJECT: TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS BY GOC

REF: NICOSIA 0901

1. FIRST ACTION RESTRICTING MOVEMENT OF AMERICAN CITIZENS IN CYPRUS UNDER POLICY EXPLAINED IN NOTE VERBALE FROM GOC MFA DATED FEBRUARY 27, 1975, WAS REPORTED TO THIS EMBASSY ON MARCH 10.

2. AMCITS INVOLVED ARE JOSEPH AND ELEANOR HART. MR HART IS VICE PRESIDENT OF AMERICAN EXPRESS INTERNATIONAL BANKING CORPORATION ASSIGNED TO JAKARTA BUT TEMPORARILY ON LEAVE IN CYPRUS. HARTS OWN PROPERTY IN KYRENIA AREA OF CYPRUS WHICH IS UNDER TURKISH CONTROL. THEY WERE GIVEN PERMISSION BY "FEDERATED TURKISH
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CYPRIOT STATE (FTCS)" TO RESIDE IN KYRENIA AND HAVE DOCUMENTATION

TO THIS EFFECT. THIS DOCUMENTATION, OF COURSE, IS NOT RECOGNIZED BY GOC AS HAVING ANY LEGAL EFFECT.

3. HARTS ENTERED CYPRUS ON MARCH 2 THROUGH TYMBOU AIRFIELD (RECHRISTENED ERCAN AIRPORT BY FTCS) AND THEIR PASSPORTS CONTAIN ENTRY STAMP SO INDICATING. EMBASSY ISSUED NEW US PASSPORTS TO HARTS IN ATTEMPT TO AVOID PROBLEMS FOR THEM AFTER RECEIPT OF NOTE VERBALE ON MARCH 3.

4. ON MARCH 8 HARTS WERE STOPPED AT GREEK CYPRIOT SIDE OF NICOSIA CHECKPOINT ON JOURNEY FROM KYRENIA TO GREEK CYPRIOT SECTOR OF NICOSIA. THEY WERE QUESTIONED CLOSELY BY GOC CIVILIAN AND POLICE OFFICERS ABOUT PORT OF ENTRY AND FINALLY ADMITTED ENTERING CYPRUS THROUGH TYMBOU (ERCAN) AIRPORT.

5. AFTER BEING SUBJECTED TO HARANGUE ABOUT USE OF ILLEGAL AIRPORT, HARTS WERE REFUSED ADMITTANCE TO GOC CONTROLLED AREA. HARTS ADVISED TO DEPART CYPRUS AND REENTER THROUGH AIRPORT RECOGNIZED BY GOC AS LEGAL ENTRY POINT. THEY WERE ALSO TOLD THAT NOTICES HAVE BEEN SENT TO TRAVEL AGENTS EXPLAINING GOC POSITION THAT LARNACA AIRPORT IS ONLY LEGAL AIRPORT FOR ENTRY TO CYPRUS.

6. COMMENT: UNLESS HARTS CHOOSE TO EXIT NORTHERN AREA AND REENTER VIA GREEK CYPRUS, THEIR MOVEMENTS ARE EFFECTIVELY LIMITED TO TURK CONTROLLED AREA. ALTHOUGH TURKISH CYPRIOT AUTHORITIES HAVE NOT YET APPLIED SIMILAR REQUIREMENT THAT FOREIGNERS RESIDENT IN NORTHERN CYPRUS USE ERCAN AIRPORT, SUCH ACTION MAY BE EXPECTED. IN THAT CASE, TRAVEL BY AMCITS AND OTHER FOREIGNERS BETWEEN TWO AREAS OF CYPRUS WOULD BE MUCH MORE DIFFICULT AND ISLAND'S DIVISION ACCENTUATED. GREAT MAJORITY OF AMCITS TRAVELING INTO NORTH DID IN FACT ENTER THROUGH GOC PORTS (AIRPORTS). WE CONCLUDE THAT ISSUANCE OF CLEAN PASSPORTS TO AMCITS CAN NO LONGER GUARANTEE THEIR FREE TRAVEL ON ISLAND. END COMMENT.

7. REQUEST DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE.
BROWN

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